(c) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Metallurgical Consultants of India (MECON) has put forward certain preliminary ideas regarding use of advanced flywheel technology in wind energy systems, mentioned in the press report, but no concrete proposal has so far been received from them.

(c) Does not arise.

Extraction of Jalpaiguri Oil by Bangladesh

3230. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil deposits within the Indian territory in the Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal are being extracted by the Bangladesh Government, through a consortium of three Arab Oil Companies;

(b) if so, whether the matter has since been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the reponse from that Government; and

(d) whether Government have since taken any steps to stop this and raise the oil with the help of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Micro-hydel project in Narmada Canal

3231. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plans have been finalised by Government for erecting micro-hydel projects on the proposed Narmada Canal;

(b) if so, how many such projects are to be erected; and

(c) what are the locations and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) As the execution of micro-hydel projects is being handled by the State Government, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat Governments have been asked to provide the required information which will be laid on the Table of the House.

Drilling for exploration of oil and Natural Gas

3232. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Soviet team of experts has since undertaken the on-shore drilling for exploration of oil and natural gas in South Bengal;

(b) if so, what is the progress of their work;

(c) whether a Japanese company has also been engaged in the off-shore drilling in the Bay of Bengal; and

(d) if so, what is the progress of its work and results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A rig has been charter-hired by ONGC from M/s. Japan Drilling Co. of Japan for drilling wells in the Bengal Off-shore. The rig has so far drilled two wells namely SME-1 (5075 mts. depth) and SMM-1 (4995 mts. depth) and the drilling of third well SMM-2 (Target depth 5000 mts.) is in progress.

The first two wells did not prove to be hydrocarbon bearing. Useful information has been gathered for further exploratory efforts.